

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/467,984

Applicant(s)

MATSUOKA, HIROCHIKA

Examiner

Jerome Grant II

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 17, 18, 20 and 21 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12, 19 and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 13-16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 December 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2626

Detailed Action

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 12, 19 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mayer III (Mayer).

With respect to claim 12, Mayer teaches an image processing method by means of 404 shown by figure 3, for mapping an input color of an input color gamut (42) to an output color of an output color gamut (410), said method comprising the steps of: executing a first mapping process

Art Unit: 2626

(425) for the input color gamut (see col. 8, lines 1-8 and col. 11 lines 55-65; and executing second mapping process 422 for a mapped color gamut as claimed.

With respect to claim 19, Mayer teaches a computer program product 404 comprising a computer readable medium (420 and 426) having a computer program code, for an image processing method for mapping a color gamut to an output color comprising the steps of :means of 404, shown by figure 3, for performing a mapping operation on an input color of an input color gamut (42) to an output color of an output color gamut (410); executing a first mapping process (425) for the input color gamut (see col. 8, lines 1-8 and col. 11, lines 55-65); and executing second mapping process 422 for a mapped color gamut as claimed.

With respect to claim 22, Meyer teaches an image processing apparatus 404 for mapping an input color of an input color gamut to an output color of an output color gamut, comprising: executing a first mapping process (425) for the input color gamut (see col. 8, lines 1-8 and col. 11, lines 55-65); and executing second mapping process 422 for a mapped color gamut as claimed.

Art Unit: 2626

Claims Objected

2. Claims 13-16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Allowed Claims

Claims 1-6 are allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest, "... wherein the mapping maps the signal indicating brightness using a mapping condition which is computed in accordance with highlight portions of the input and output color gamuts, and increases a degree of mapping of the highlighted portions compared to middle lightness.

Claims 7-11 are allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest, "... wherein the mapping maps the signal indicating tincture using a mapping condition which is computed in accordance with high-saturation portions of the input and output color gamuts at a predetermined hue, and increases a degree of mapping of the high saturation portion..."

Art Unit: 2626

Claim 17 is allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest, "... wherein the mapping maps the signal indicating brightness using a mapping condition which is computed in accordance with highlight portions of the input and output color gamuts and increases a degree of mapping of the highlight portion compared to middle lightness.

Claim 18 is allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest, "... wherein the mapping maps the signal indicating tincture using a mapping condition which is computed in accordance with high-saturation portions of the input and output color gamuts at a predetermined hue, and increases a degree of mapping of the high-saturation portion compared to a low saturation portion.

Claim 20 is allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest, "... wherein the mapping maps the signal indicating brightness using a mapping condition which is computed in accordance with highlight portions of the input and output color gamuts, and increases a degree of mapping of the highlight portion compared to middle lightness.'

Claim 21 is allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach in claimed combination, "... wherein the mapping maps the signal indicating tincture using a mapping condition which is computed in accordance with high-saturation portions of the input and output color gamuts at a

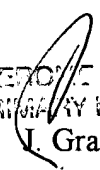
Art Unit: 2626

predetermined hue, and increases a degree of mapping of the high -saturation portion compared to a low-saturation portion.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is 305-4391. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams, can be reached on (703) 305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 305-3900.


JEROME GRANT II
PRIMARY EXAMINER
J. Grant II